

## TRIBUTE TO BETTY HEADTKE

**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 21, 2001*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an amazing woman, my friends and neighbor Betty Headtke, who has recently been named St. Richard's Council of Catholic Women "Women Of the Year" for 2001.

Throughout her life, Betty has been very involved in the community in which she lives. She has been married to her husband Ray for the past 47 years, and they have raised five wonderful children. Betty has worked for Holy Cross Hospital in the accounting office, and then as a secretary for Neo Product; the latter company for whom she worked 25 years before retiring just a few short years ago. During this time, she found the time and energy to act as a lunch monitor and a school chaperone for seventh and eighth grade dances.

Over the past several years, Betty's community involvement has increased. Following her retirement, she has been the Vice President of the Council of Catholic Women, and the Membership Chairperson of the same organization. While she is no longer the vice president, she retains her post of the latter, as well as expanding her duties to include the Treasurer of the Golden Agers and an auxiliary minister for her church.

Her role is not merely limited to being a member of the Council of Catholic Women. She also volunteers as a carnival worker and supports many other functions that St. Richard's provides. Further, Betty plays the role of caregiver towards her immediate family, and baby-sits any number of her 11 grandchildren whenever she has the time to do so.

While a banquet is being held on her behalf, I feel a great need to honor this pillar of my community among my fellow representatives. Betty is an incredible, warm-hearted person who deserves our gratitude for the lives that she has touched over the past half-century. I whole-heartedly congratulate Betty and wish her all the best in the future.

**MARLETTE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL: HOMETOWN CARING AT ITS BEST**

**HON. JAMES A. BARCIA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 21, 2001*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marlette Community Hospital upon celebration of the 50th anniversary of the opening of its doors in Marlette, Michigan. The hospital's founders, its excellent staff and leaders such as Administrator David McEwen and Board President Gordon Miller deserve high praise for the initiation and sustaining of first-rate health care to generations of friends and neighbors in the Thumb region of Michigan.

Located in a rural community with about 2,000 residents, the 91-bed facility was founded in 1951 to provide quality medical care close to home after community leaders decided it was time to build a hospital in their town. As the story goes, the need was identified after a young man with a broken leg had

to climb several stairs to a doctor's office to receive treatment. An initial downpayment of \$10,000 by the Fred Willis family served as seed money to begin construction of the new hospital, but planners ran into a snag in securing federal grant money because Marlette was considered too small to warrant such expenditures. During a trip to Washington, DC, community leaders persuaded lawmakers to adopt the so-called Marlette Amendment, which allowed the grants to go to smaller communities.

Since its inception, the hospital has consistently provided superior elective and emergency care to patients and offered a wide variety of services to residents in the three-county area. Today, the thousands of residents who live in Marlette and surrounding communities depend upon the top-noted physicians, nurses and other professionals who attend to their health needs.

In addition, a \$162,000 donation by Guerdon T. Wolfe allowed the hospital to build a 24-bed retirement complex in 1969 to serve the residential needs of seniors. In recent years, the hospital also has reached out by offering many important new services, including establishing a network of primary care offices for the convenience of residents who don't live nearby. Also a partnership with Saint Mary's Medical Center in Saginaw has allowed the hospital to build a new facility that will provide chemotherapy and radiation therapy services for cancer patients in the Thumb area.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the wonderful staff of Marlette Community Hospital the very best wishes on their 50th Anniversary and hopes for many more years of serving the health care needs of the Thumb.

## H.R. 2275, VOTING TECHNOLOGY

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 21, 2001*

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, today I'm introducing H.R. 2275, along with my colleague and neighbor from Michigan, Congressman BARCIA. This bill deals with a very important problem: ensuring that voting technologies are accurate, secure, reliable and easy to use.

Last November, as the world placed Florida under a microscope to scrutinize its election, we saw just how vulnerable our nation's voting systems are to error. And in the months since, we've discovered that the problems that plagued Florida are rampant among many other states, but went unnoticed because the elections in those states were not nearly as close as in Florida.

In the months since last November, we've also had the chance to explore solutions to the problem. We've discovered that we need to develop updated standards for voting systems to make sure that they perform reliably on election day. Updated standards can ensure that voting machines are accurate in tallying the ballots voter cast. And they can help reduce voter error by improving the usability of new voting technologies.

And more importantly, as our voting systems begin to rely increasingly on computers to record, count and archive ballots and to transmit elections results over computer networks, we need standards to ensure that

these systems meet the highest standards for computer security, so we can prevent hidden voter fraud by clever computer hackers.

The Ehlers-Barcia bill addresses each of these concerns. It directs the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the nation's foremost experts on technology, computer security, and technical standards, to help develop updated standards to ensure the usability, accuracy, integrity, and security of our country's voting systems.

NIST is the federal agency with the technical expertise needed to help create the technical standards necessary to improve our nation's voting systems. NIST is a tremendous technical resource that we must enlist to help solve this problem. It has a strong record of working cooperatively with diverse groups to develop standards by consensus. These groups would certainly include state and local elections officials, among others.

Mr. Speaker, this is a complex problem, with complex solutions. I am proud to introduce this bipartisan bill today with my colleagues from Michigan because I believe it is an important part of the solution. I urge my colleagues to support the Ehlers-Barcia bill and work together with us to pass this important legislation.

**TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH AND VICTORIA COTCHETT**

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 21, 2001*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute today to two distinguished Californians, Victoria and Joseph Cotchett, who are being honored as Volunteers of the Year by the Volunteer Center of San Mateo County, California.

Victoria and Joe Cotchett have provided years of extraordinary public service to our community and our country. The Cotchett's give so generously of their time, their talents and their resources and are widely known and deeply respected within our community for their extraordinary contributions to many worthy organizations and causes. They are driven by their passion for the arts, for the average person, and for justice.

Long an advocate of women and children, Victoria Cotchett is an avid supporter of the arts and a community leader in animal care issues. She has distinguished herself as a writer and has served on the boards of many organizations, including Poplar Recare and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Joe Cotchett is a noted trial attorney with a distinguished record of campaigning for equal justice as well as his many years of professional and civic involvement. For the past ten years, Joe has been named one of the 100 most influential lawyers in the country, earning the highest esteem of colleagues and clients alike. Joe has been described by the National Law Journal as "one of the best trial lawyers; a clear champion of underdogs."

Victoria and Joe Cotchett are the proud parents of two beautiful daughters. The Cotchett's have opened their hearts to another family, a group of refugees fleeing political oppression in Eastern Europe. Joe and Victoria did everything within their power to facilitate this family's transition to the United States, providing